

'The World's Finest Investigative Agency'

To the Editor:

I have read the thoughtful article by Anthony Marro on the Federal Bureau of Investigation in "The New York Times" of Sept. 6.

What I have seen from my vantage point as Attorney General during the past eight months contrasts sharply with that article's negative picture of the bureau's management and investigative activities.

If Judge Johnson is confirmed as Director, he will have an opportunity to form his own judgment of the Bureau at this point in its history. But during Clarence Kelley's directorship a series of changes within the bureau have in my opinion significantly increased its investigative and management capabilities. Contrary to the implication in your article, the emphasis today is on quality cases rather than quantity of cases. The management structure and techniques of the F.B.I. have also been modernized.

I have great confidence in and respect for Director Kelley and the personnel of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. They are the world's finest investigative agency. Their very positive story should also be told.

GRIFFIN B. BELL

United States Attorney General
Washington, Sept. 7, 1977